

The Ripline

www.bris.ac.uk/depts/union/BUHABS

Issue 7 2001/2002

**Newsletter of the BRISTOL UNIVERSITY HOT AIR BALLOONING SOCIETY
in association with the U.W.E HOT AIR BALLOONING SOCIETY**

Hi everyone, hope you're all enjoying the long summer. BUHABS crews have been enjoying the (slightly) better summer weather as well, and we have reports of summer flying and the Bristol International Balloon Fiesta. As always, there are several embarrassing pictures of various members of the committee in this issue as well!

At the back of this issue is a membership form for 2002/2003. Your committee are already working hard to get BUHABS off to a flying start (no pun intended) next term, with planning for FRESH and socials already in progress. We hope you will re-join BUHABS next year, as a member of one of the largest and most active balloon clubs in the country you can experience ballooning at a fraction of the cost of a commercial flight. For comparison purposes, a leading high street store offers a "ballooning experience" for over £180! Crewing points are also carried over to next year, so if you have a few in hand, you'll be more likely to get an early flight next year!

Membership fees will stay at £30 next year, but we have had to increase the cost of a flight by £2 to £14. This is to cover increases in the cost of propane and petrol. This is the first rise in flying cost since 1997. Coming out and retrieving remains absolutely free! We are also hoping to develop a scheme which will allow you to become a certified crew member, so you can have even more to show for your membership!

Welcome to Phil Hooper who takes over editing the website from Ed Kay. Thanks to Ed for all the hard work he's put in over the last couple of years.

Ellie Fearon () and Hugo Williams ()

Congratulations!

To outgoing President Simon Jenkins, who passed his checkride (flying test) on 16th August, and flew solo for the first time on 17th August. Simon joins the esteemed ranks of BUHABS active pilots. We're all looking forward to flying with Simon soon! Simon will be writing an article for the first Ripline of next year about his checkride and solo.

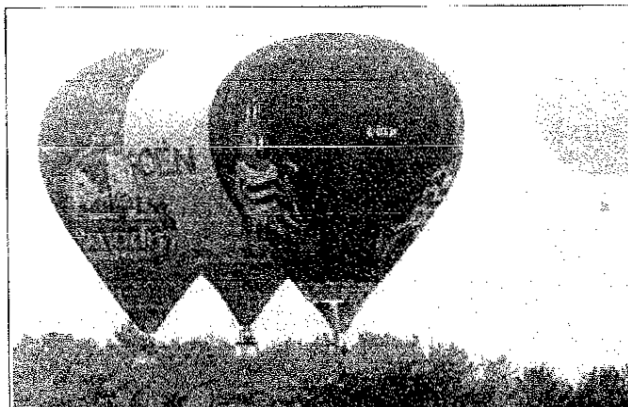
Ellie has now started her training, when last seen in a balloon, she was wearing a bright pink T-shirt with a large "L-plate" on her back! Her pink T-shirt could literally be seen from miles away! Here she is training with Tim (Photo Rachel)



Bristol International Balloon Fiesta—Part 1.

Friday 9th to Sunday 11th August saw BUHABS making several appearances at the Bristol International Balloon Fiesta at Ashton Court, one of our regular launch sites. We don't normally share the launch field with over 60 other balloons though!

On Friday morning, the first BUHABS crew of the weekend woke up very early and headed towards Ashton Court in poor weather. A few balloons flew, but in drizzle and poor visibility, managed only very short flights. We headed off to breakfast to keep dry! Friday evening and Saturday morning were also unflyable. Things were beginning to look very bad.....



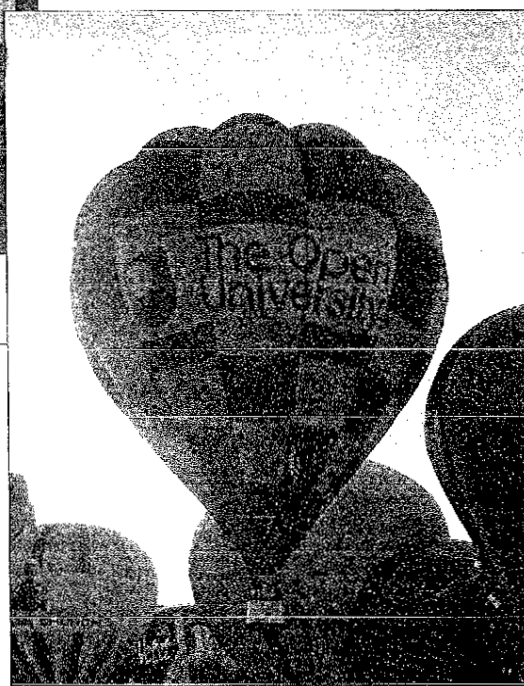
Friday am at Ashton Court, mist and drizzle! Note the BBC globe in the mist. The Fiesta this year was its last flight and it is now retired. (Photo from BBC website)



Paul welcomes our Open University guests on board as Sylwia and I keep our weight on. (Photo Simon J)

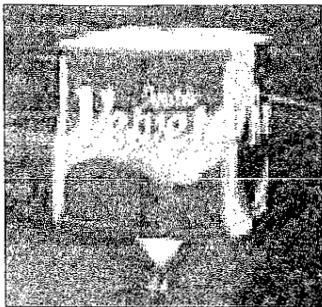
same time. Anyone who has been to the Fiesta knows the launch field appears to be in disorganised chaos to an outsider! BUHABS 5 took off about halfway through the flock of balloons with Paul as pilot. We were flying two guests from the Open University on this slot. I made up the last crewmember. With half the balloons ahead of us and half behind, we

Saturday afternoon was windy but as the evening went on, the wind dropped out and 60 balloons began inflating almost at the



B5 Climbs away from the launch field into relative calm! (Photo Tim)

got a wonderful view of the many different balloons. Several special shape balloons were flying, the omni-present Bertie Basset balloon, a couple of



Flying toilet roll (Photo BBC website)
And the very scary Bertie Basset balloon (I always think he's looking at me!) (Photo Tim)



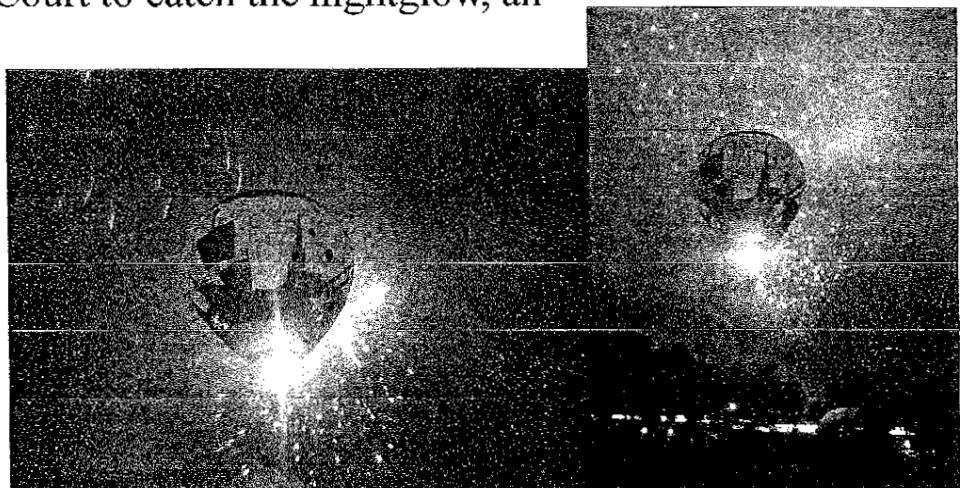
Budweiser glasses, the British Gas flame, the Greenpeace globe and a toilet roll pack — very cool! Flying out on a heading of about 170 degrees, we went over

Bishopsworth and Withywood, then over Dundry hill and into the Chew Valley. Paul landed, with a gentle stand-up landing, in a fallow field which was part of a fruit farm in Bishop Sutton, just south of Chew Magna. Tim, Simon J and Sylwia

were driving the retrieve, and they arrived very soon after we landed. We then drove back to Ashton Court to catch the nightglow, an

event where several balloons are tethered to the ground and fire their burners in time to music. A spectacular fireworks display finished the evening. Look out for part 2 of the BUHABS Fiesta adventures in the first Ripline of next year!

Hugo



Some spectacular pictures of the Bristol 2008 Balloon with fireworks! These may not print brilliantly in black and white, so please check out the website version of this Ripline to see them in their full glory! (Photos Tim.)



Evening Nightglow. Again, check on the web for the colour version! (Photo from BBC website)

And Last but not least.....

David Shatford has now driven a couple of retrieves on the van, so joins the elite team of BUHABS drivers! As always, if you are over 21 and have a driving license, you could be a BUHABS driver, there's no test and its not difficult, and it's a great way to get involved in ballooning! E-mail [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] for more info!

Bristol University Hot Air Ballooning Society

www.bristol.ac.uk/Depts/Union/BUHABS



BRISTOL UNIVERSITY HOT AIR BALLOONING SOCIETY

BUHABS Membership form 2002/2003

Surname:		
First Name(s):		
Address:		
Postcode:		
Home Tel:		
Work/Mobile Tel:		
E-mail:		
Department:		
UG/PG/Staff/Other:		
Student Number:		
Age:		
Amount due:	(£30.00 per member)	
Method of Payment:	CASH*	CHEQUE*

* - Please circle as appropriate



If you wish to join BUHABS for 2002/2003 season, please complete and return this form, with payment, to:

Flight costs will be going up to £14 per flight this year to cover the increase in the cost of propane and petrol.